



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week's trading were trending mostly unchanged. Trade sentiment was overall steady. Retail demand was seasonally light to fair with most interest focused on other holiday meat items. Food service was light to moderate, fairly good into fast food. Supplies were at least adequate with heavier weights in the longest balance. In the parts structure, trading was fair to moderate. Breast items were mixed, but mostly adequate, and wings were available. Dark meat was adequate to fully adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 04/05/04-04/09/04 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	71.00-74.00	69.75-81.00	73.27	28
Los Angeles	79.00			
New York	75.00-77.00			
Southeast Area	FOB Dock Equivalent			
Mississippi	73.50-75.00	72.00-79.00	74.41	81

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 74.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
896	66.50-76.50	73.97

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	255.50	1,209
BREASTS - B/S	229.00	5,376
BREASTS - WHOLE	122.50	1,770
THIGH MEAT - B/S	114.50	981
LEG QUARTERS	34.50	7,540
WINGS	129.50	2,900

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged from Monday's final. The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was mostly steady. Offerings light to fair and at slight discounts from earlier part of week. Buyers were cautious and satisfied with hand to mouth acquisitions. Retail demand was light; trade opinion was that prices were too high and that traditional holiday items were the main focus. Food service demand was fair for the most part, instances better into some fast food promotions. Floor stocks were adequate. Weights were mostly in a desirable range. Trade on parts items was nonaggressive as buyers turn cautious and selective. Wings and tenderloins remain in good balance; boneless/skinless breasts offerings were more apparent and slightly discounted; dark meat cuts, especially drums and thighs were building and finding little additional interest. The market tone was generally steady on white meat cuts, although wings were mixed with dark meat items barely steady to weak.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was generally steady entering the weekend. Demand was limited to fair, at times moderate for fast food promotions and for other holiday meat items being featured. Supplies were usually sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was slow to fair with supplies of all items available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices unchanged for next week. The market tone was generally steady. Trading reported at mainly unchanged prices. Buying activity was

seasonally moderate as interest leaned towards holiday meat items. Offerings were in fairly good balance with current needs. Retailer demand was moderate overall best to cover features, particularly on parts. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances.

Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated):

Arizona – whole body 99, boneless breast 349-499, boneless breast tenders 399, split breast 99-279, boneless thigh meat 199-249, leg quarters 79-99, drumstick 129-159, thigh 129-159;

Colorado – whole body 100, whole body cut-up 100, roaster 99-100, boneless breast 399, boneless breast tenders 2.5# bagged IQF 500, split breast 3.5# bagged IQF 500, boneless thigh meat 249 and 2# bagged IQF 500, drumstick 99 and 4# bagged IQF 500, thigh 99-100 and 4# bagged IQF 500, leg quarter 79-100,

(deli food service) – fried 8 piece mixed 499, chicken tenders 449 per pound, whole rotisserie chicken each 499;

Northern California – whole body 99-169, whole body free range 229, whole body organic 349, Cornish hens 149, kosher roaster 169, boneless breast 4# bagged IQF 1099, split breast 199, boneless thigh meat 269, whole legs 99-159, leg quarter 89, drumstick 89-129, thigh 89-159;

Southern California – whole body 57-79, whole body seasoned 119, whole cut-up 119, Cornish hen 99, roaster 99-149, boneless breast 179-999, boneless breast 4# bagged IQF 999, boneless breast tenders 3# bagged IQF 999, boneless leg meat 99-159, boneless leg meat marinated 129, boneless thigh meat 168, split breast 99-189, wings 5# bagged IQF 500, leg quarters 10# bagged 390-490, thighs 47-98, drumstick 47-98, drumstick 4# bagged IQF 276-356, drumstick 5# bag 240,

(deli food service) - fried 8 piece mixed 398-599, hot wings 399 per pound, whole rotisserie chicken each 399-599).

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was noted as fair at best entering the week-end. Offerings of the 3 pound and lighter birds remained in the better balance with the larger birds in the longer position. Retail and distributive draw was seasonally fair at best. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts were adequate to available at times. Bone-in breasts were at least sufficient. Dark meat lines were adequate to fully adequate. Wings were clearing satisfactorily.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds seasonal and generally no better than fair. Offerings continued fully sufficient, particularly on the heavier sizes. Live supplies mostly moderate; weight varied and were desirable overall. Processing schedules moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment about steady. In the parts complex, supplies at least adequate. *BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	76-88
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	78.64
NO. OF BOXES	5,563
CUMULATIVE	03/29/04-04/02/04 79.02
	03/31/03-04/04/03 54.65
NO. OF BOXES	03/29/04-04/02/04 29,456
	03/31/03-04/04/03 39,374

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

APR 01

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APR 02

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE			(000)	RANGE			(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	927	205.00-296.00	208-212	211.16	882	203.00-296.00	205-208	215.41	4,355	213.02
TENDERLOINS	173	225.00-278.00	230-237	241.04	183	230.00-278.00	230-237	240.71	1,021	239.60
BREAST - LINE RUN	103	112.00-127.00	116-118	118.39	118	114.00-127.00	115-118	117.62	584	117.11
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				295	112.08
LEGS	113	35.00-56.00	37-39	39.76	138	35.00-56.00	35-39	38.72	580	39.67
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	595	29.00-33.00	30-31	30.78	579	30.00-33.00	30-31	30.78	3,078	30.78
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	980	34.00-38.00	34-35	34.76	1,060	33.00-38.00	34-35	34.58	5,070	34.35
WINGS (WHOLE)	307	120.00-134.00	120-126	124.27	307	120.00-134.00	120-126	122.97	1,499	123.98
WINGS (CUT)	323	135.00-142.00	137-139	138.52	622	137.00-142.00	137-139	138.74	2,538	138.99
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				85	53.22
THIGHS	68	40.00-56.00	-	45.71	TOO FEW TO REPORT				240	48.35
B/S THIGHS	102	93.00-122.00	-	107.69	87	93.00-122.00	-	110.22	500	109.23

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APRIL 01, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APRIL 02, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE**TODAY'S AVERAGE****RANGE****TODAY'S AVERAGE****5-DAY AVERAGE**

69.00 - 73.50

71.30

69.00 - 74.00

71.82

71.40

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS - Trucklot buying activity was fair to moderate entering the weekend. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts were adequate to at times available. Bone-in breasts were sufficient. Dark meat lines were at least adequate. Wings were clearing satisfactorily. Retail draw was lighter as seasonal holiday items begin to enter the market. Distributive draw was fair at best. The market tone was cautious on boneless-skinless breasts, no better than steady on dark meat items and mostly steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

APR 02

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	WEEKLY VOL/LBS
	TRADING*				TRADING*					
BREAST - B/S	220	216.50	461,170		220	212.50	698,881	216.19	2,984,444	
TENDERLOINS	235	229.87	62,560		235	227.43	108,960	219.64	555,260	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	114-115	119.87	115,680		114-115	119.74	193,120	119.34	783,920	
BREAST - LINE RUN	114	116.34	95,360		114	117.11	152,160	116.59	594,440	
LEGS	42-43	40.49	213,900		42-43	41.71	360,122	41.61	1,460,208	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	33.74	470,271		33-34	33.53	422,056	32.91	2,281,936	
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	39.34	92,870		31-32	36.72	188,840	38.87	730,830	
THIGHS	42-43	47.65	40,640		42-43	48.51	93,200	47.95	297,520	
B/S THIGHS	110-111	110.53	55,040		110-111	107.50	76,600	107.69	375,260	
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117	126.04	79,240		116-117	125.09	180,640	123.93	735,600	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.28	40,360		10-12	12.23	29,840	12.09	166,720	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.52	11,640		35-40	32.42	13,760	31.41	86,275	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	58.36	16,880		55-60	57.61	25,960	58.58	94,620	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WT		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	04/02	04/01	03/31	03/30	03/31	03/30	03/26	03/24		
	(1,000)		(1,000)				(1,000)			
ALA	3,749	3,676	3,887	3,836	5.18	5.26	3,920	5.22		
ARK	5,615	5,448	5,149	5,269	5.02	5.04	4,988	5.01		
DELMARVA	2,166	2,154	1,925	2,022	5.50	5.59	2,102	5.43		
KY-LA-TN	1,928	1,985	1,929	1,995	5.02	4.98	1,897	4.97		
MISS	3,196	3,097	2,996	3,123	5.48	5.43	3,005	5.33		
NC	2,434	2,458	2,316	2,326	6.52	6.42	2,299	6.42		
TEXAS	2,272	2,261	2,356	2,307	4.99	5.10	2,345	5.07		
TOTAL	21,360	21,079	20,558	20,878	5.33	5.35	20,556	5.31		

MON-FRI 106,057(A)

103,738(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 02-Apr 04 and 3-Apr-04 is estimated to be 31,957,000 up 3.60 percent from a week ago and up 1.2 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,846,000; last year 31,564,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 03-Apr-04 is estimated to be 152,361,000 head unchanged from a week ago, and down -2 from a year ago.

(Last week 152,749,000 Last year 156,255,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	71-77
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	104-107
DRY PACK	102-104
ICE PACK	
ROASTERS 4# & UP	105-109
DRY PACK	109
ICE PACK	
HENS OVER 5#	93
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS	152-175

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 20-Mar-04 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
	-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	27,824	20,869	47,669
Avg Weight	3.49	4.76	6.30
% of total /1	29%	22%	49%

COMPARISONS

Last week	34,478	21,485	47,775
Avg Weight	3.60	4.81	6.22
% of total /1	33%	21%	46%

Same week, yr ago /2	27,427	29,572	40,349
Avg Weight	3.71	4.74	6.30
% of total /1	28%	30%	41%

To date/2004	289,595	233,826	478,590
To date/2003	259,557	237,862	466,967

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 27-Mar-04 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				

HEAD	152,749	1,254	1,222	2,476	481
AVG WT	5.16	3.24	8.00	5.59	6.76
LAST WEEK	153,006	1,283	1,338	2,621	463
SAME WK YR AGO	152,814	1,980	1,391	3,371	413
AVG WT	5.07	3.43	7.84	5.25	6.92
TO-DATE/2004	1,842,387	15,274	15,206	30,480	5,512
TO-DATE/2003	1,807,846	20,204	16,315	36,519	5,028

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 158.0 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.6 million head or 3.4 million head less than or 98% of estimated fryers available.

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - MARCH 30, 2004

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.80 - 1.05	Silkie	3.50 - 5.00 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.90 - 1.00	Geese 9-14 LBS	.50 - .60 ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.20 - .40	Pigeons	2.50 - 2.75 ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.50 - .80	White Pigeons	4.75 - 5.00 ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.90 - 1.00	Rabbits	
Crossbred Roosters		4-6 LBS	1.40 - 1.70
4-6 LBS	.90 - 1.20	Rabbits	
Crossbred Roosters		6-9 LBS	1.20 - 1.30
7- 11 LBS	.80 - 1.10	Bunnies	2.00 - 9.00 ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.40 - 1.60	Guinea Pigs	3.00 - 5.00 ea.
Banty Roosters	3.75 - 4.50 ea.	Goats	65.00 - 70.00 ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 3.00 ea.	Kid Goats	40.00 ea.
Leghorn Hens	.07 - .10	Pullets 4-6 LBS	1.20 ea.
Leghorn Roosters	.25 ea.	Total Coops Sold	724

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 29-MAR-2003

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137-140	144-146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	76.00-80.00	77.00-78.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	67.00-87.50	67.00-77.00

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-71.28
14 OZ.	66.96-77.92
16 OZ.	73.44-86.67

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remained unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to at times fully steady. Demand was fairly good to good. Schedules full-time. Weights were desirable. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.50, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 29-MAR-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO
ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
FEBRUARY 21	154.1	157.7	98%	5.05
28	154.6	156.8	99%	5.17
MARCH 6	155.3	156.2	99%	5.41
13	159.1	157.0	101%	5.06
20	154.9	158.6	98%	5.15
27	154.6	158.0	98%	5.16
YEAR TO DATE	1864.9	1885.1	99%	
APRIL 3		156.9		
10		157.6		

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**Under Federal Inspection**

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	04/03/04	03/27/04	% CHG	04/05/03	% CHG
Broilers	152,361	152,749*	0	156,255*	-02
Cattle	588	620	-05	645*	-09
Hogs	1,928	1,921	0	1,884*	+02
*ACTUAL					

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Sales were too few to report on heavy cannery. Light cannery were unchanged to slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for lights; fair to moderate for heavies which were in short supply due to internal use. Limited offerings were clearing satisfactorily. Processing schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

25.5-30.5 MAJORITY 25-26

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

TOO FEW TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

27-32 MAJORITY 27.5-28

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

TOO FEW TO REPORT

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority prices were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly moderate. Offering of spent fowl were generally sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules less than normal. Opinions on removal cost were steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	8.5-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Costs of disposal were too few to report. Demand for spent hens was light. Offerings remained fully adequate. Schedules were sufficient to cover a fair call for finished product. Values were expected to remain steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST		TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal costs were higher. Offerings were adequate and reported as more available than the previous week. Opinions of value were about steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	4.5-10.5	4.5-5

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR
SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 05-APR-04

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was mostly moderate for offerings that were at least adequate. Processing schedules for next week were reported as less than normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS Negotiations were too few to report. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of heavy hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.